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Method and system for use with photographic apparatus.

A system for displaying ranging information in alphanumeric form in a photographic apparatus such as a camera is described. The system comprises a sonar-type range finder (20) for transmitting ranging energy toward a subject to be ranged; a distance decoder module (50) for deriving a range signal by measuring a characteristic of reflected or non-reflected ranging energy from the subject; a seven segment decoder (60) for converting the range signal into a subject range display signal which facilitate displaying the subject range in alphanumeric form; and an LED display (64) for displaying the range display signal in alphanumeric form. Preferably, the range display signal is displayed in the viewfinder of the apparatus.

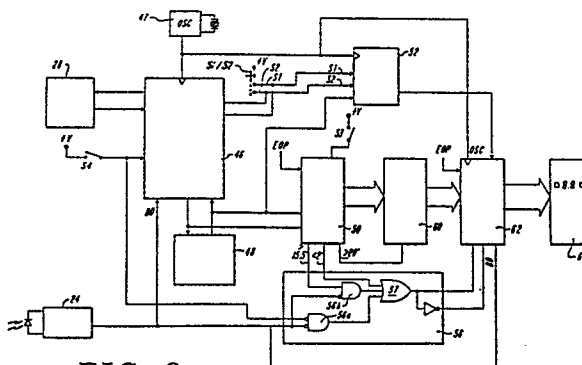


FIG. 3



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)
X	DE-A-3 035 568 (VEB PENTACON) * Whole document *	1,2,4, 5,7-9	G 03 B 17/20
Y		12,13	
Y	--- GB-A-2 040 483 (ROLLEI-WERKE) * Whole document *	12,13	
A		3,10	
A	--- DE-A-3 429 747 (VEB PENTACON) * Figures *	6,11	
A	--- FR-A-2 424 562 (POLAROID) * Whole document *	3,10, 12	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4) G 03 B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 28-07-1987	Examiner SEIFERT
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

